

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



**IN THE MATTER OF AN  
ENFORCEMENT ACTION  
CONCERNING  
CITY OF FRISCO  
RN101430437**

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§  
§

**BEFORE THE  
TEXAS COMMISSION ON  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

## **AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2009-0166-WQ-E**

At its \_\_\_\_\_ agenda, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding the City of Frisco ("the City") under the authority of TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the City presented this agreement to the Commission.

The City understands that it has certain procedural rights at certain points in the enforcement process, including, but not limited to, the right to formal notice of violations, notice of an evidentiary hearing, the right to an evidentiary hearing, and a right to appeal. By entering into this Agreed Order, the City agrees to waive all notice and procedural rights.

It is further understood and agreed that this Order represents the complete and fully-integrated settlement of the parties. The provisions of this Agreed Order are deemed severable and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Agreed Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable. The duties and responsibilities imposed by this Agreed Order are binding upon the City.

The Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

### **I. FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The City owns a wastewater collection system in Frisco, Collin County, Texas (the "System"). The City experienced a line break at the elevated portion of the southbound Dallas North Tollway service lane, just south of Cotton Gin Road and north of the railroad tracks (the "Site").

2. The City has discharged sewage into or adjacent to any water in the state under TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26.
3. During an investigation on December 30, 2008, TCEQ staff documented that a 24 inch sewer main had been discharging wastewater into Stewart Creek below the Dallas North Tollway Bridge. The discharge was discovered on December 29, 2008 and consisted of approximately 200,000 gallons of wastewater. Additionally, TCEQ staff noted one dead sunfish in the area of impairment, dissolved oxygen levels were indicative of anoxic conditions that lead to fish kills. TCEQ staff noted minor sludge accumulations on the stream bottom and margins of the creek.
4. The City received notice of the violations on February 2, 2009.
5. The Executive Director recognizes that the City repaired the broken sewage line and completed the cleaning of the affected area on December 30, 2008.

## **II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The City is subject to the jurisdiction of the TCEQ pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26 and the rules of the Commission.
2. As evidenced by Findings of Fact No. 3, the City failed to prevent an unauthorized discharge of wastewater into water in the state, in violation of TEX. WATER CODE § 26.121(a).
3. Pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 7.051, the Commission has the authority to assess an administrative penalty against the City for violations of the Texas Water Code and the Texas Health and Safety Code within the Commission's jurisdiction; for violations of rules adopted under such statutes; or for violations of orders or permits issued under such statutes.
4. An administrative penalty in the amount of Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$3,750) is justified by the facts recited in this Agreed Order, and considered in light of the factors set forth in TEX. WATER CODE § 7.053. The City has paid the Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollar (\$3,750) administrative penalty.

## **III. ORDERING PROVISIONS**

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ORDERS that:

1. The City is assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$3,750) as set forth in Section II, Paragraph 4 above, for violations of TCEQ rules and state statutes. The payment of this administrative penalty and the City's compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order completely resolve the violations set forth by this Agreed Order in this action. However, the Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective actions or penalties for other violations that are not raised here.

Administrative penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: City of Frisco, Docket No. 2009-0166-WQ-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenues Section  
Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13088  
Austin, Texas 78711-3088

2. The provisions of this Agreed Order shall apply to and be binding upon the City. The City is ordered to give notice of the Agreed Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the System operations referenced in this Agreed Order.
3. The Executive Director may refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings without notice to the City if the Executive Director determines that the City has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Agreed Order.
4. This Agreed Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order, whichever is later.
5. This Agreed Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the City in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Agreed Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
6. This Agreed Order may be executed in multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single original instrument. Any executed signature page to this Agreed Order may be transmitted by facsimile transmission to the other parties, which shall constitute an original signature for all purposes under this Agreed Order.
7. The Chief Clerk shall provide a copy of this Agreed Order to each of the parties. By law, the effective date of this Agreed Order is the third day after the mailing date, as provided by 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(b) and TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.142.

## SIGNATURE PAGE

### TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Agreed Order in the matter of City of Frisco. I am authorized to agree to the attached Agreed Order on behalf of City of Frisco, and do agree to the specified terms and conditions. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.

I understand that by entering into this Agreed Order, City of Frisco waives certain procedural rights, including, but not limited to, the right to formal notice of violations addressed by this Agreed Order, notice of an evidentiary hearing, the right to an evidentiary hearing, and the right to appeal. I agree to the terms of the Agreed Order in lieu of an evidentiary hearing. This Agreed Order constitutes full and final adjudication by the Commission of the violations set forth in this Agreed Order.

I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions, if any, in this order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount, may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions; and
- TCEQ seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Printed or typed)  
Authorized Representative of  
City of Frisco

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

**Instructions:** Send the original, signed Agreed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenues Section at the address in Section IV, Paragraph 1 of this Agreed Order.